

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 1st November 1884.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	700	
2	"Tripurá Vártavaha"	Comillah	.....
3	"Prem Pracháriní"	Nawabgunge, Barrack-pore.	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
4	"Alok"	Calcutta	.....
5	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Ditto	700	27th October 1884.
6	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto	102	24th ditto.
7	"Bangabási"	Ditto	12,000	25th ditto.
8	"Bártábaha"	Pubna	.....
9	"Bhárat Hitaishí"	Burrisal	450	
10	"Bhárat Mihir"	Mymensingh	625	
11	"Bardwán Sanjivani"	Burdwan	296	28th ditto.
12	"Bikrampore Patriká"	Dacca	756	
13	"Cháruvartá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	529	
14	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca	425	26th ditto.
15	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	800	24th ditto.
16	"Grámvartá Prakashiká"	Comercolly	247	25th ditto.
17	"Halisahar Prakashiká"	Calcutta	.....
18	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Beauleah, Rajshahye	200	
19	"Játiya Suhrid"	Calcutta	700	
20	"Medini"	Midnapore	500	
21	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Berhampore	437	
22	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto	.....
23	"Navavibhakar"	Calcutta	850	27th ditto.
24	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	440	
25	"Prajá Bandhu"	Chandernagore	900	24th ditto.
26	"Prántavási"	Chittagong	600	
27	"Pratikár"	Berhampore	600	
28	"Rajshahye Samvád"	Beauleah	.....
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakash"	Kakiniá, Rungpore	220	
30	"Sádharañi"	Calcutta	500	26th ditto.
31	"Sahachar"	Ditto	500	22nd ditto.
32	"Samaya"	Ditto	1,500	27th ditto.
33	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	4,000	25th ditto.
34	"Saraswat Patra"	Dacca	345	
35	"Shakti"	Calcutta	.....
36	"Som Prakash"	Changripottá, 24-Perghs.	1,000	27th ditto.
37	"Sulabha Samachar"	Calcutta	3,000	
38	"Surabhi"	Ditto	700	28th ditto.
39	"Udbodhan"	Ditto	.....
<i>Daily.</i>				
40	"Dainik Vartá"	Calcutta	450	
41	"Samvád Prabhákar"	Ditto	225	
42	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	
43	"Samachar Chandrika"	Ditto	625	
44	"Banga Vidyá Prakashiká"	Ditto	520	25th, 27th & 30th Oct. & 1st Nov. 1884.
45	"Prabháti"	Ditto	1,000	27th to 31st October 1884.
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	365	25th ditto.
HINDI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore	.....
48	"Bharat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	23rd ditto.
49	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto	500	
50	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto	300	25th ditto.
51	"Hindi Samachar"	Bhagulpore	700	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
52	"Jám-Jahán-numá"	Calcutta	250	24th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Gauhur"	Calcutta	100	
54	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar	250	
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
55	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta	340	25th ditto.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
56	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar	.....
57	"Assam News"	Ditto	450	No date given.
URIYA.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
58	"Utkal Dipiká"	Cuttack	250	11th October 1884.
59	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore	200	14th ditto.
60	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Ditto	116	16th ditto.
<i>Monthly.</i>				
61	"Sebaka"	Cuttack	200	
62	"Taraka"	Ditto	.....
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
63	"Kshatriya Patriká"	Paina	400	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
64	"Chumparun Hitakari"	Bettia	.....

POLITICAL.

SOM PRAKASH,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

The *Som Prakash*, of the 27th October, says that the Thakur of Bidashir is now to all intents and purposes a prisoner. He is not allowed to communicate with anybody outside. The letters addressed by him to his friends and relatives are not despatched. Thus the innocent Thakur is suffering a heavier punishment than do thieves and robbers in jails, who are even allowed to see their friends and relatives, and are placed under medical treatment when they fall ill. One hears of such cruelty only under the Mussulman Nabobs. It is said that Mulhar Rao died owing to want of medical advice and residence in unhealthy quarters. How long will the innocent Thakur be able to suffer disgrace and imprisonment? If he dies owing to grief, will not a deeper stain be cast upon British rule than that cast upon it by the hanging of Nundakumar? The writer says that the Thakur has now lost his wits on account of his misery. It is not to be expected that he will be able to determine now what should be done. If nobody again is allowed to approach him, how will he be able to prove his innocence? The writer says that, when the Political Agent is treating the Thakur so cruelly, why should not the latter be allowed an opportunity of establishing his innocence by being removed to another place?

2. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 28th October, says that several articles have recently appeared in the *Times* advocating the reduction of the armies in the Native States. The writer of the articles is desirous of bringing these princes down to the level of ordinary subjects, but he should remember that they are obliged by the condition of their treaties with the English to maintain their armies. If they maintain a larger army than stipulated in the treaty, they are immediately prevented from doing so.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

SAHACHAR,
Oct. 22nd, 1884.

3. The *Sahachar*, of the 22nd October, says that Dr. Mahendralal Sircar delivered a thoughtful speech on the present condition of students. He complained of the want of moral training in Indian schools, and of the unruliness of the students. He said that it was not necessary to teach the students religious dogmas of any kind. Several moral principles are at the base of every religion. All that is necessary is to inculcate these principles on the students. He also said that a teacher should never allow his pupils to become unruly. This he should not do by threatenings of punishment, but by superior mental force. But inasmuch as boys cannot in all cases be ruled by superior mental and moral force, great severity too is at times necessary. But this severity should be used only for the correction of faults of the students and should not proceed from passion. The writer says that the above remarks are true. If a ruler does any injustice through mistake, the people are not so much vexed. But if a ruler deliberately injures the people in the same manner as Mr. Thompson has attacked the Calcutta Municipality by accepting the leadership of the Anglo-Indians who are bitterly hostile to natives, he loses their reverence. In the same manner, if a student knows that his teacher loves him, and that he has punished him for his welfare, he will not utter a word even if the punishment is unduly severe. But if European professors show that they hate native students, their every action will be looked upon with a suspicious eye by the latter. They will consider the punishment awarded by such professors as proceeding from hostility. The writer is sorry that several political leaders in this country are encouraging the unruliness of the students of this country. The writer hopes that men like Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjea will consider the matter.

SAHACHAR,
Oct. 22nd, 1884.

4. The same paper says that Mr. Thompson's Resolution about the Nuddea students' case has made every one truly glad. For many years such a Resolution has not issued from the Bengal Secretariat. The writer does not agree with the *Statesman* in thinking that pressure from the Viceroy has compelled the Lieutenant-Governor to issue it. He attributes the Resolution to the wholesome influence of Mr. Edgar. By the Resolution the Lieutenant-Governor has indicated that the officials will no longer be allowed to do what they please. The writer says that everyone approves of the expression of displeasure by Mr. Thompson at the conduct of the Presidency Commissioner, Mr. Tayler, and Major Ramsay. It is a matter of regret that Messrs. Tayler and Smith, both of whom command the respect of the people should have been placed in this position. The Lieutenant-Governor has rightly said that the Commissioner of a Division should carefully watch everything. Mr. Smith should have considered whether a case like the Nuddea students' case should have been allowed to be conducted. The writer says that, as the Police Superintendent persuades the Magistrate to support him before taking any important step, the latter persuades the Commissioner to support him before he engages in any important proceeding. When the higher officers have once promised to support their subordinates, they cannot say anything even if the actions of the latter turn out to be wrong. To say nothing of other cases, Lord Ripon could not grant the prayer of the rate-payers of Calcutta, because the Lieutenant-Governor had persuaded the Viceroy to support him before he attacked the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta. The writer says that the Kishnagore students are very rude and unruly. Every one is dissatisfied with them. They richly deserved punishment. But as Mr. Thompson has said, instead of bringing them before a criminal court, the officials should have got them punished by the Principal of the College. The writer says that Major Ramsay has richly deserved the punishment which has been awarded to him. But he would have been glad if Mr. Taylor, who has served with credit up to this time, had been let off with a reproof. It may be asked why the Lieutenant-Governor did not interfere in the matter before. The Lieutenant-Governor has given the reason for his silence in his Resolution. He has said that, from what he then learnt about the case at that time, he thought that, when the case was before the court, the trial should be allowed to be finished. Those who have any knowledge of law and of the duties of the Lieutenant-Governor must admit that the Lieutenant-Governor cannot interfere with cases that are *sub judice*. The public should give up the impression that the Lieutenant-Governor encouraged the Nuddea officials.

SAHACHAR.

5. The same paper, referring to the extracts from vernacular papers published under the heading of the "Spirit of the Vernacular Press" in the *Englishman*, complains that apparently seditious passages are extracted without any reference to other passages which will show that they are not really such. He says that the people of England should be informed of this dishonesty. Native Editors are not disloyal. It is strange that those who wish to found a new empire by subverting the Queen's Government pretend to be loyal. The writer again warns native Editors. He says that the writer in the *Navaribhakar*, who has said that the Judges of the High Court were swayed by partiality in their decision about the Webb case, should not be allowed to write in newspapers. The *United India* should know that people are becoming disgusted with his writings. The writer entreats the *Bangabashi* not to abuse the English, who are the best friends of natives. The writer of the *Bangabashi* would have been long before sent to jail if Russians had been the rulers of this country instead of the English.

6. The same paper says that a good minister increases the fame of his master. The Resolutions that have issued from the Bengal Government since the appointment of Mr. Edgar as a Secretary have very much gratified the public. The writer thinks that Mr. Thompson will regain the confidence and respect of the people if Mr. Edgar remains in his present office for some time longer.

SAHACHAR,
Oct. 22nd, 1884.

Mr. Edgar.

7. The same paper, referring to the appointment of Mr. Veasey as Officiating Inspector-General of Police, says that an able Military Officer should be placed at the head of the Police Department instead of a Civilian. The police has become deteriorated owing to the placing of Civilians at its head. No one is now satisfied with the work of the Police.

SAHACHAR.

The placing of Civilians at the head of the Police Department.

8. The same paper says that the Director of Public Instruction has confirmed the sentence passed by the Commission upon the students of the Presidency College. The writer says that Mr. Croft would have done well to lighten the punishment awarded to some of the students. Mr. Webb who, according to the writer, is not free from blame, should have been transferred from the Presidency College.

SAHACHAR.

Mr. Croft and the sentence passed upon the students of the Presidency College.

9. The same paper has heard that the inhabitants of a tract of ground (about 10 miles in length and 4 miles in breadth) under the Shampore thana and in the Oolobarah sub-division have been ordered to leave their homes and fields. It is rumoured that the Magistrate of Howrah and the Police Superintendent went to that place with some reserve constables and chowkidars, and proclaimed that those who would not leave the place with their properties would be sent up for trial before the Magistrate. By threatening the people the chowkidars are compelling them to leave their homes. It is said that the place will be converted into a review ground? Government should enquire into the matter.

SAHACHAR.

The inhabitants of a large tract of ground compelled to leave their home and fields.

10. The *Praja Bandhu*, of the 24th October, says that it is rumoured that Mr. Thompson issued the Resolution on the Kishnagore students' case under pressure from Lord Ripon. Still the writer is glad to read it. Since the time of the Dacca Resolution of His Honor, the students' cases became rather frequent. From that time officers of the Ramsay class became anxious to secure the good graces of His Honor. The writer does not think that the slight punishment inflicted on the officers at Kishnagore quiets the apprehension of the people. People would have been better pleased if Mr. Taylor were transferred to the Stationery Office, and Major Ramsay sent back to the army.

PRAJA BANDHU,
Sept. 24th, 1884.

The Kishnagore students' case.

11. The same paper is glad to hear that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has ordered a searching enquiry into the affair of the collision at Aranghata. Some say that over a hundred men were killed; others say that many dead bodies were burnt with the broken carriages. Is there any truth in all these statements?

PRAJA BANDHU.

The Aranghata accident.

12. The same paper refers to the remarks of Mr. Thompson on the Native Press to the effect that it is an exponent of the views of its conductors, and not of the public, and says that such hostile observations would have looked well in the columns of the *Pioneer* or of the *Englishman*. The writer never expected to hear such things from the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

PRAJA BANDHU.

Mr. Thompson on the Native Press.

13. The same paper has a piece of poetry in which the writer addresses mother India, points out to her the oppressions practised on her young sons and

PRAJA BANDHU.

An appeal to mother India.

on her daughters by demoniacal men of other religions, and asks her either to assume the character of Mahashakti or great power, and to cut to pieces the heads of the men of other religions, or to infuse vigour into the inhabitants of India to enable them to put down the oppressors.

UCHIT VARTA,
Oct. 25th, 1884.

14. The *Uchit Vakta*, of the 25th October, advocates the separation of the Executive from the Judicial functions. These two functions should not remain united in the hands of one and the same individual. The High Court of Calcutta thinks that the separation is absolutely necessary for securing impartial administration of justice in the mofussil.

DARUSSULLANUT,
Oct. 25th, 1884.

15. The *Darussullanut*, of the 25th October, notices the case of shooting of natives alongside the Tarakesvara Railway by Europeans, and says that a law should be passed to prevent those who are not good huntsmen from using firearms for the purpose of hunting.

URDU GUIDE,
Oct. 25th, 1884.

16. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 25th October, says that the Resolution of Mr. Thompson on the Kishnagore students' case has given universal satisfaction in Bengal. The good name of British justice has been vindicated.

URDU GUIDE.

17. The same paper says that it would never have objected to the appointment of Mr. Abdur Rahaman to the Bengal Legislative Council if he had passed any of the University examinations, or if he had any experience of the world. Mere residence in London, and becoming a barrister-at-law, is no merit.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
Oct. 25th, 1884.

18. The *Gramvartá Prakáshiká*, of the 25th October, is very much opposed to the introduction of the value-payable parcel system between India and England, on the ground that the introduction of the system will ruin native industries completely.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

19. The same paper is sorry to find that, though the case of the tenants of the khas mehals in Midnapore is still *sub judice*, the Lieutenant-Governor and the Chief Justice have published comments on the case from two different points of view. Do they not know that such comments constitute contempt of court?

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

20. The same paper hears that Lord Ripon has recommended the recall of Sir Richard Garth. The recommendation is said to be based on the three following grounds, viz. first, the publication of his minute on the Rent Bill against rule; second, the expression of opinion on a matter which is still *sub judice*; third, the use of unbecoming language to high officers in the minute. These are grave faults indeed, and especially for a Chief Justice, to commit. There is no harm if Sir Richard retires, but the question is, will Lord Ripon be able to do all this? Mr. Thompson too deserves censure for he too is guilty of the second offence.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

21. The same paper is glad to hear that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has ordered the Magistrate of Nuddea to make a searching enquiry into the matter of the accident at Aranghata.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

22. The same paper condemns the action of Mr. Thompson in filling up the vacancy caused by the retirement of Babu Kunjalal Banerji by an European.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

23. The same paper asks all Europeans, whether official or non-official, to listen to the advice given by His Honor in his Resolution on the Kishnagore students' case. The writer asks them to remember that everything has a limit.

Mr. Webb should know that there is a just ruler overhead, and the European lovers of sport should also know the same thing.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
Oct. 15th, 1884.

24. The same paper continues its article on the theory of Government, and says that the English dominion in this country may come to an end, but the people will never perish. India belongs to her people, but how miserable they are! For various reasons there is but very small possibility of union among the people, and for want of union they suffer all sorts of indignities. The two great races inhabiting India are the Hindus and the Mahomedans. Among these the Mahomedans possess greater power of organization. Union is the life of society, the life of a nation, and the life of a State, and in this respect the Mahomedans are better than Hindus. The Hindus are divided into so many different classes and races, that even well-informed Hindus do not know them all. The people of India may form associations, make speeches, memorialise the Parliament, and so on, but until they reform their society they will not succeed in anything.

Theory of Government.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

25. The same paper says that under the British rule the Magistrate is a god. The High Court considers the power of the Magistrate to be exceedingly dangerous. People all over the country have come to know of the affairs at Kishnagore. The writer is glad to find that the Indian Association has memorialized the Government of India on the subject, for he considers this to be the best opportunity for doing so.

The double function of the Magistrate

BANGABASI,
Oct. 25th, 1884.

26. The *Bangabasi*, of the 25th October, says that the statement made in the Administration Report of the Burdwan Division, that the year under report has been a very healthy one in all districts except Midnapore, is wrong. The health of the division was not even tolerably good. There was malaria in Hooghli and in Burdwan. The people suffered greatly during the months of September, October and November from fever and from affection of the liver and spleen.

The health of the Burdwan Division.

BANGABASI.

27. The same paper is glad to find that the Lieutenant-Governor has requested the Commissioner of the Presidency Division to institute a speedy enquiry into the affairs of the accident at Aranghata. The writer requests the officers enquiring into the matter to clear up the following points: 1st. Whether information was given to Bagula and to Ranaghat immediately after the occurrence. 2nd. If not, what was the reason for not giving such information? 3rd. How long did the engine first despatched from Bagula remain at Aranghata, and when did it return? 4th. When was the information sent to the Deputy Magistrate of Ranaghat, and was conveyance ready for him when he reached the station? 5th. Whether any dead body was removed before his arrival. 6th. Whether the Deputy Magistrate received the depositions of Professor Ewbank and Missionary Bell. If not, why not? 7th. How many 2nd, 3rd and intermediate carriages were there in the down train, and how many tickets for stations beyond Bagula were sold in stations behind it? Whether a list of passengers travelling in those carriages, which were not crushed to pieces, was taken. If not, why not? 8th. Whether any man expired in the station. 9th. In what condition did the Deputy Magistrate find the dead bodies. 10th. Whether any depositions of the living passengers were taken. If not, whether there is any list of such passengers. A correspondent of the *Indian Mirror* says that he counted 20 dead bodies on the spot. A correspondent of the *Liberal* says that the number of dead bodies is 25. It is rumoured that the native doctor at Kanchrapara has stated that the number is 50. Is there any truth in these rumours?

The accident at Aranghata.

BANGABASI,
Oct. 25th, 1884.

28. The same paper finds fault with the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for dismissing the subject of the tone of the Anglo-Indian newspapers with the remark

Mr. Thompson on the Native Press.

that they lost much of their self-restraint and good feeling. They made definite proposals of rebellion and abused Lord Ripon as dishonest, and the Government of deceiving and cheating, and His Honor said that they lost only a little of their self-restraint. His Honor believes that these papers have recovered their proper function of temperate criticism. The temperate tone of the Anglo-Indian Press after its victory on the subject of the Ilbert Bill does not appear to be very meritorious. His Honor says that in three instances applications were made for sanctioning the prosecution of vernacular papers. But this appears to be inconsistent with the statement made last year by his Private Secretary that no application for the sanction of prosecution of any vernacular paper was received. In conclusion, His Honor says that the Native Press is the exponent of the views of its conductors, and not those of the people. If this is so, where was the necessity for the Press Act, and why did the whole country protest against the imposition of the Press Act? The writer says with confidence that the newspapers of Bengal are a better exponent of the feelings of the people than the newspapers of any other Province. Mr. Thompson came to this country when very young, and he is now an old man, and still he does not understand that the Press is a living photograph. It is a misfortune of the Bengali Press that every Lieutenant-Governor eyes it with disfavour. Though in the opinion of His Honor the Native Press is not the exponent of the opinions of the people, Lord Cranbrook held a different opinion. His Lordship thought that the Vernacular Press was one valuable means for ascertaining political sentiments.

BANGABASI.

29. The same paper says that the punishments meted out to Major Raa say and Mr. Tayler are not adequate, but, under the circumstances, the natives should

The Kishnagore students' case.

consider this to be quite sufficient. The people are thankful to His Honor that he has at last perceived his error, and has also perceived that unless the oppressor is punished, people become discontented. Some say that His Honor has consented to punish these men under pressure from Simla. But that makes no difference. People held Mr. Thompson in very high respect until the time he became the ruler of Bengal. From that time the Anglo-Indians got him on their side, and he began to hate natives. His head was turned by the Ilbert Bill agitation, and the civilian class became all powerful. Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee was unjustly hauled up before the court, and boys assembled round it to show their sympathy to their dear friend. From that time the officials thought that all boys were rebels, and that therefore they should be checked. The Dacca student was unjustly put to prison, and His Honor recorded a Resolution to put down the boys. Students' cases followed in quick succession, and schoolboys were *haerauned* and *paraishaned* on the slightest pretext. Continued indulgence made the civilians arbitrary. The just Resolution of the Lieutenant-Governor will have the effect of making them less highhanded.

BANGABASI.

30. The same paper says that the police has no sympathy with the people. People fly away at the appearance of a constable. The police is embodied

The oppression committed by the Police.

oppression. The newspapers often brought the character of the police to the notice of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. His Honor's attention was drawn to the subject. He instructed the police to act in harmony with the people. All enquiries had been formerly conducted by head-constables. Fifth grade sub-inspectors at Rs. 30 a month were employed in several

districts in the place of head-constables. If the pay is higher better men become available, and with better officers oppression becomes less.

BANGABASI,
Oct. 25th, 1894.

31. The same paper says that Bengal is an agricultural country, but people do not understand agriculture properly. If the land yields a plentiful crop, the people eat; if not, they suffer, they weep and they die. In every 5th or 6th year there is a famine, in which much money is spent and many lives are lost. The only way of preventing famine is to improve agriculture. The idea of sending two men from Bengal for education to Agricultural Colleges in England was first mooted by the Famine Commission. But how can agriculture be improved when the passed students from the Agricultural College are employed as Deputy Magistrates? The Government should establish an agricultural school in every considerable village, and an Agricultural College in every city, and model farms, and should try to protect the land from the effects of both inundation and drought if it wants to prevent famines.

How to prevent famines.

32. The same paper says that famine has made its appearance in Bengal. Government has come to know that people in Burdwan, Beerbhoom and Bankoora are suffering from want of food, and it has made arrangements for granting relief in many places. Government has also requested the Commissioners to submit reports on the state of the crops before the 5th November.

BANGABASI.

The writer learns from his Burdwan correspondent that in many villages in that district people are suffering from want of food, and men are likely to die of starvation. In the jurisdiction of the Munsif of Budbud 14 per cent. of the people are in want, but the Commissioner says that only 4 per cent. of the people are in distress.

The Editor learns from his correspondent in Bankura that the agriculturists in the district are in great distress. For the last two years the yield from land was rather scanty. This year people are suffering for want of food from the month of April. For the first three or four months they managed by mortgaging all the valuables they possessed. But from July and August there is no end to their sufferings.

The Editor hears from his correspondent at Shaldanga in Julpiguri that people do not get two full meals a day. The price of rice was Rs. 2-8 per maund, but it has now risen to Rs. 2-12, and it is rising still. People live on gourd and arum, but even these articles have become scarce.

33. The same paper says that, from the time of the introduction of the Ilbert Bill, a section of the Anglo-Indian community desired to haul up some of the native newspapers in court. From the beginning of the Bengali year 1291, there has been a talk of the reimposition of the Press Act. The people who conspired against the Vernacular Press were trying to set on foot an agitation on the subject in England. The Calcutta correspondent of the *Times* telegraphed in August last that the vernacular papers were trying to spread discontent in the land. Hence many natives feared that the Press Act might be reimposed. But the editor was firm in his conviction that such a thing would never happen—

BANGABASI.

The reimposition of the Press Act.

1st.—Because the Liberal Government, which has abolished the Press Act, cannot possibly reimpose it.

2nd.—Because application was made to Lord Ripon for the reimposition of the Act, but he presented a bold front, and the Vernacular Press was saved.

3rd.—Because the editors of vernacular papers are innocent men and they never dream of rising in rebellion.

4th.—Because right-minded Englishmen understand that newspapers like the *Englishman* are really dangerous.

5th.—Because the reimposition of the Act will make Government a loser and not a gainer.

BANGABASI,
Oct. 25th, 1894.

34. A correspondent of the same paper, who was present at the scene of the accident at Aranghata, says that, if water had been available at the time, many lives might have been saved. The few who died in the presence of the correspondent, died with the words "water," "water" in their mouths. There was a well close by, but no vessel to raise water. Though an earthen vessel was at last procured for raising water, there was no pot by which water could be poured into the mouths of the sufferers. Baboo S. C. Kali, the Assistant Surgeon of Patna, made the best use of his power and of his skill to bandage the wounds of the sufferers. The few that are under treatment at the Campbell Hospital owe their lives to Baboo S. C. Kali. The lad named Bandhu had his head badly injured. It was necessary to sew the portion injured, no string was available. It had to be sewn by means of the holy thread belonging to the Assistant Surgeon and to the writer.

The accident at Aranghata.

BANGABASI.

35. A correspondent of the same paper writes from Ulipore in Rungpore that the prospects of the crops are very bad and rice is selling at 9 or 10 seers a rupee.

The want of food.

A correspondent writing to the same paper from Maheshpore in Jessore, says that rice is selling at 10 seers a rupee. The people are in a very miserable condition; malaria has made its appearance among them. Poor people have sold all they had for treatment. They are now dying for want of proper medical aid.

A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Bhastara in Hugli, says there is not a drop of water to be found in the fields. The peasants are doing their best to moisten their fields with water drawn from tanks and ponds, which again afford them but a scanty supply.

BANGABASI.

36. A correspondent writing to the same paper says that distress is very great in the thannas of Buddud, Saheb-ganj, Ausgram, and Manchesvara. In Buddud only 12 bighas of land have been cultivated out of 3,000 bighas. The gomasta of the zemindar has been able to realise only Rs. 60 up to date. Relief works have been opened for a few days. The rate of digging 100 cubic feet of earth has been justly settled at ten pice. Those that are incapable of active work receive aid in the following scale:—namely, a man receives four pice, a woman three pice, and a boy two pice. But rumour has it that these rates are to be reduced. Under the superintendence of the native doctor at Mankar there has been opened at Annachhatra, a place for the free distribution of food to the incapable.

Scarcity in Burdwan.

In the sudder thana of Burdwan less than half the land has been cultivated, and the yield from the cultivated area is expected to be only 12 per cent. of what can be expected from it in a good year.

The writer is convinced that relief works should very soon be opened. People will wait till the winter crop is gathered in. But after a month from the harvest time relief will be urgently required, otherwise many will die of starvation.

The writer advises the Government to re-excavate the khal named Gournadi, which runs along the road from Mirjapore to Kuramun on the left. It will engage a large number of men during the famine time, and in future years, in the case of a drought, a very large area will be irrigated by it. The Government will not have to acquire land for a khal which is already in existence. The Government may also re-excavate the many tanks that have been silted up. When there is no certainty in rainfall, people should no longer depend entirely upon it. They should try to have a supply of water ready for times of need.

37. The *Sanjivani*, of the 25th October, is glad to notice that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has distinctly declared that the provisions of the Bengal

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 25th, 1884.

The Rent Bill in the khas mehals.
Tenancy Bill will apply to the khas mehals also; so the apprehension entertained by many that they will not be so applied falls to the ground.

38. The same paper disapproves the aspersions cast on Mr. Thompson for not filling up the vacancy caused by the retirement of Babu Kunjalal Banerji in the Calcutta Court of Small Causes by a native Judge. The writer says that the Second Judgeship of that court has been filled up by gradual promotion, and the last Judgeship has been given to Babu Rajkishen Sen. No one should blame His Honor for what he has done in this matter.

SANJIVANI.

39. A correspondent named Chandrakissore Chowdry of Nawabgunge Sonamukhi in Bogra, writing to the same paper, informs the Editor that his mother Jaymani Dasya, his sister Gangamayi, and his brother's wife Icchamayi were killed in the accident. His mother had Rs. 1,197 with her, his sister Rs. 197, and his brother's wife Rs. 200. His niece Vishnumayi had Rs. 289-8-3 with her. She was wounded and her money remained with her. No one knows what has become of the sums belonging to his mother, sister and sister-in-law. The Editor says that, according to the version of Mr. Bell, the Europeans helped the wounded and brought them out from the broken carriages, and so they must have seen the money. They should be asked about it.

SANJIVANI.

40. The same paper draws the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor to the fact that the relief works at Nalhati were stopped for three days last week, but were re-opened, because the poor people were perfectly helpless, and they could not afford to leave the work. It is rumoured that these works will be stopped in the beginning of November.

SANJIVANI.

41. The same paper says that Major Ramsay, the thoughtless Superintendent of Police, Nuddea, arrested the Station-master at Arunghata, and has released him on bail till his trial. From the depositions that have appeared in the papers, the Station-master does not seem to have been at fault. The rashness of the driver and the guard of the mail train brought about the accident. But the Nuddea Police wants to throw the blame on the Station-master. The writer is glad to find that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has checked the high-handed officer. His Honor thinks there should be a thorough investigation before committing anybody to Criminal Courts. The writer says that His Honor has changed for the better since Mr. Edgar has become the Chief Secretary. The whole of Bengal rejoices at the change in His Honor's disposition.

SANJIVANI.

42. The same paper hopes that the native newspapers will try to correct their faults on reading the remarks made about them by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in his Resolution on the report of the Commissioner of the Presidency Division. The writer assures His Honor that no paper aims at producing a spirit of discontent against Government. All the newspapers desire that the Government by reforming itself may endear itself to the people. It is a matter of great regret that any remarks made against any Englishman are interpreted as disloyalty. The papers would never have been obliged to attack Government had it checked its high-handed officers. The present Government would never have been so unpopular had it taken the Dacca Students' case in the same spirit as it has taken the Kishnagore students' case. His Honor is under the impression that the opinions expressed in these papers are not the opinions of the

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people. He would never have conceived such a wrong impression had he known what a large number of letters are received at the offices of these papers on what they write. Even females in the zenana felt an interest in the cases of Baboo Surendra Nath Banerji and of Mr. Webb, and in the Dacca and Kishnagore student cases.

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43. The same paper remarks that the *Sadharani* is too charitable in its remarks on Baboo Ram Charan Basu. His statements that the dead bodies could not be identified, and that they got putrid by 12 o'clock, are untenable, as all the dead bodies except two were identified, and the dead body of Morgan lay on the ground till the evening. Baboo Ram Charan should have ordered the burning of the dead bodies that were identified to be those of Hindus. These are grave faults, and Ram Charan Baboo deserves censure for them. But men should not be too severe in their censures.

The accident at Aranghata.

SANJIVANI.

44. The same paper says that Mr. Beames in his divisional report has remarked that native youths have become very disrespectful to Europeans from the time of the Ilbert Bill agitation. But the writer says that Mr. Beames has overlooked the fact that Europeans have from that time become very much oppressive to the natives.

Mr. Beames on the educated natives.

SANJIVANI.

45. The same paper learns from a very trustworthy person that a boat was sunk by the Railway steamer which plies between Dacca and Goalundo. The Captain made no attempt to save life, but steered direct for its destination. The authorities should make an enquiry into this affair. If the facts be true, the Captain should not be allowed to go unpunished.

A steamer accident.

SANJIVANI.

46. The same paper has the following :—
Elections of Commissioners in the Mofussil Municipalities will take place on the 25th of November. By the favour of Government Municipal government is on the point of being placed in the hands of Bengalis. Therefore Government deserves the thanks of the public. But the rules which have been issued for the election of Commissioners will defeat the object of the law, and in many places there will be no election at all. We will state our objections one by one :—

Election in the Municipalities.

1. The 25th of November is a Tuesday. The Electors will have to give their votes in person. Those that practise in courts will not be able to be present at the polling office by neglecting their suits. This applies to Government servants as well. This objection can be removed by closing the Government offices. But those who serve in merchant offices will not be benefited by the closing of the Government offices. They will have to attend office. On the other hand, unless ten per cent. of the electors are present, the elections will be stopped, and Government will appoint the Commissioners. Some pray that the day be fixed on a Sunday.

2. The Elective System is going to be introduced in this country after a long time. Many do not understand the value of the rights conferred on the people, so it cannot be hoped that they will all come to the polling office. So our second prayer is that the voters in the mofussil be given the privilege of sending in written votes in the same way as is done in Calcutta.

3. The elections are to be held on the 25th November, so notice has been given of these elections at least six weeks before the election that is on the 13th October. Within 14 days from the 13th, that is, within the 27th November, nominations are to be sent in to the Municipal Office. In many districts offices were closed till the 20th of October. Many join their offices in November after the Puja holidays, and so they will be unable to

nominate Commissioners. Another question—the rules for election were published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 1st October, but in certain places they never attracted the attention of the Magistrates before the 8th October. They have had very little time to prepare the list of qualified voters, so there will be many mistakes in the list of electors. For these reasons our third prayer is that the day for election should be fixed on some day in the third week of December.

4. The Election Rules that have been published do not say anything specially as to whether during the whole day or at what time of the day the elections in particular wards are to be held. If in any municipality the elections in different wards take place in different times of the day, we strongly believe that the rate-payers will not be able to come to the polling office in time, and so they will lose their right of election, though it has been conferred on them. In many houses in the mofussil there is no clock, and they have not learnt punctuality. If the rule of convening meetings for taking votes be insisted upon, everything will go to ruin for the absence of the requisite number of rate-payers. Therefore our fourth prayer is that the votes of the electors of every ward be taken during the whole day.

His Honor has pleased the whole of Bengal by passing the Municipalities Bill, and let him accept our gratitude by taking steps that will assure the success of the measure.

47. The same paper says that Beerbhoom is a very fertile place, but for the last three years the production has been very small. The reason of this is that the cultivation depends entirely on rain fall. Failure of rains is followed by failure of crops. There are no good tanks from which fields might be irrigated. There are a few old tanks, but they have not been re-excavated for years. The cultivator class has no capital. The writer thinks that until the English farming system of cultivation is introduced in this country there is no means for preventing famines.

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48. The same paper is glad to find that the prosecutors of the students at Kishnagore have been not only censured, but punished by the Lieutenant-Governor. But the writer is of opinion that His Honor would have done well if he had not, while doing this act of grace, attempted to defend the authorities at Dacca for their share in the Dacca students' case.

SANJIVANI.

49. The same paper observes that the *Englishman* is very much annoyed with the Chief Commissioner of Assam for his reply to the Defence Association on the subject of Mr. Francis' case. The writer thinks that Francis is guilty, though the Defence Association thinks otherwise, for if he is not guilty, let him haul up the witnesses against him for perjury.

SANJIVANI.

50. A correspondent writing to the same paper from Barai in Nattore says that there is a police station in the village; the officers of the police are in the habit of keeping horses and cows. These often do great harm to the people. The horse of a constable destroyed the crops of one Arabdi, who wanted to put it in the pound, but was severely beaten by the constable. Arabdi went to the thana to complain of the assault, but neither the sub-inspector nor the head constable was there.

SANJIVANI.

51. A correspondent writing to the same paper says that the eastern portion of the district of Moorshedabad will suffer greatly from scarcity. The rice crop has failed, rice is selling at 10 or 11 seers a rupee, the cultivators and labourers are suffering greatly from want of food. Had the pulses grown abundantly, there would have been some relief, for the poorer class eat bread prepared from the pulses.

SANJIVANI.

SADHARANI,
Oct. 25th, 1884.

52. A correspondent writing to the same paper says that there is a female school of pretty long standing at Dacca. The present condition of the school is very wretched. The Superintendent does not look after the interests of the school. She gets a handsome pay and lives on the first floor of the school premises. There are only 30 to 40 girls in the school. It is rumoured that the schooling fees of the girls will be increased. If the school is abolished, the girls at Dacca will have to go without education.

The Dacca Eden School.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Oct. 26th, 1884.

53. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 26th October, says that the accident at Aranghata appears to have taken place on account of the fault of the driver, but that the *Englishman* and Mr. Bell want to attribute it to the cowardice and want of readiness of the Station-master and of the native fireman with a view that natives may not in future be appointed in these offices. The writer thinks that these accidents will continue to occur until there is a double line.

The accident at Aranghata.

DACCA PRAKASH.

54. The same paper is anxious to see the order of the Viceroy for admitting natives into the Opium Department carried into effect. But he thinks that, when the power of selection has been vested in Mr. Thompson, there is no knowing when it will be so carried into effect.

Admission of natives into the Opium Department.

DACCA PRAKASH.

55. The same paper says that it is always in favour of the selection of men of merit for Government offices, but it thinks that in the case of the Native Civil Service experienced Deputy Collectors should have been exempted from examination.

The Native Civil Service.

DACCA PRAKASH.

56. The same paper says that scarcity has made its appearance in every part of Bengal. The people of Beerbhoom are suffering greatly from it. The writer is glad to notice that Mr. Thompson is anxious to see that no life is lost for want of food.

The scarcity.

DACCA PRAKASH.

57. The same paper says that, though Mr. Thompson has attempted to clear himself about the case of the students at Kishnagore by saying that the case was at first thought to be a trifling matter, and that interference would have been useless when it was discovered to be otherwise, it cannot adjudge him not guilty in this affair. The writer cannot believe that Mr. Thompson could not understand the importance of the subject when he was so anxious to keep himself informed all about it. If His Honor had not issued the Dacca Resolution and kept a sharp eye on the prosecution at Kishnagore, matters could not have gone so far. Whatever that may be, the writer thanks His Honor for what he has done to punish the prosecutors, but is sorry that His Honor still supports his Dacca Resolution.

The Kishnagore students' case.

SADHARANI,
Oct. 26th, 1884.

58. The *Sadharani*, of the 26th October, says that the real happiness of the country is decreasing. It is becoming more and more poor and depopulated day by day. Native arts have been destroyed, cows have decreased in number. The tax upon justice and administration is increasing day by day. Though there are fashionable roads, railways, post-offices, and telegraph arrangement, the people are crying. The state of the country being so wretched, native Editors are very glad if they can make Government take notice of the misery of the people. But if Government is indifferent to the misery of the people, the native papers are placed in a very difficult situation.

Native Papers and the condition of the people.

59. The same paper says that it is monstrous that the heroic Major

Mr. Tayler and Major Ramsay.

Ramsay, who succeeded in quelling such a formidable revolt as that of the Kishnagore students by dint of indomitable courage, untiring perseverance, and skilful stratagem, has been degraded instead of being promoted. A thousand penances will not wash away this sin of Mr. Thompson, anarchy will prevail in the country after this, and Nuddea will certainly be occupied by the rebellious students. Had not Mr. Tayler aided Major Ramsay in quelling the formidable mutiny, in consideration of insignificant laws the Anglo-Indian community would have laughed at his cowardice. This hero too has been punished. If after all this Nuddea is occupied by the rebellious students, Mr. Thompson will be held responsible for it. It is a matter of deep regret that Mr Thompson could not pursue his policy towards the students. The honest means which was devised by the officials to save the Empire by punishing the Dacca students severely for a light offence, and which was supported by Mr. Cunningham, the model Judge of the High Court, is truly ruler-like. Mr. Tayler and Major Ramsay tried to show respect to Mr. Thompson's Resolution. Mr. Thompson also did not speak a word, though he knew all about the quelling of the Kishnagore mutiny. Had Mr. Tayler and Major Ramsay not thought under these circumstances that they were pleasing the Lieutenant-Governor by their action, the writer could have considered them the greatest fools in the world. Mr. Thompson has said that when he heard about the particulars of the Nuddea case it was too late to withdraw it. He could have easily withdrawn the case, says the writer, if he had any desire to do so. Wicked persons say that Mr. Thompson has changed his policy under pressure from Lord Ripon. The writer does not know anything about it, but he is sure that after this change of policy the rebellious students will become the masters of the whole of Bengal. What the Russian Nihilists have not been able to do the rebellious students of Bengal will do.

60. The same paper says that everybody knows that the ryots in the khas mehals are rack-rented and very much

SADHARANI.

The khas mehals.

oppressed. But the Lieutenant-Governor has said that they are becoming more and more happy. He argues that the settlement officers in the khas mehals are Government servants, and consequently they have no interest in enhancing rent like the zemindars. The writer is not surprised to hear such reasoning from Mr. Thompson. His arguments are generally of this nature. The man who believes that Government servants are incapable of oppressing the ryots knows nothing about the real state of affairs. In the Jalamoottha taluk rent has been enhanced by from 50 to 150 per cent. The Chief Justice, who is on the side of the zemindars, wants to show that the zemindars do not suck dry the lifeblood of the ryots like Government. The Chief Justice has clearly shown that by the Acts of 1878 and 1879, Government is as easily able to enhance rent in the khas mehals as before 1822. In 1877 the rent was enhanced in the Midnapore khas mehals; great objection was made to the enhancement. To remove this objection, a law was made in 1878, which was supplemented by a still more favourable Act in 1879. The writer says that, if enhancing rent by 150 per cent. is not oppression, he knows not what oppression is.

61. The same paper says that the Famine circular was issued on the 7th October. The information wanted

SADHARANI.

The Famine Circular.

by the circular will have to be submitted by the Commissioners of Divisions on the 5th November. Correct information on the points mentioned in the circular cannot be obtained secondhand. Why did not the Commissioners and the Magistrates spend the month

allowed them for preparing the answers on a tour through the mofussil in order to ascertain the extent of the distress of the people? It is not possible to govern satisfactorily by drafting letters alone. If the officials do not set out on tour when necessary, what is the use of setting out on tour, and accepting in the course of it the hospitality of zemindars? The writer complains that Government pays no attention to the notices published in Bengali papers about the scarcity of food and water in different parts of the country; perhaps those extracts only which the *Englishman* publishes to prove the disloyalty of the Bengali papers are pleasing to Government.

SADHARANI,
Oct. 26th, 1884.

62. The same paper is surprised and sorry to see that, though some of the rules regarding Municipal Elections have been so ingeniously framed that it may make the Elective System a failure, the majority of native papers have spoken nothing about the matter. The native papers should unanimously protest against the rule that the voters will have to give their votes at the place where the election will take place, and that votes by proxies or written votes will not be accepted. Those who have common sense and some knowledge of the mofussil, know that the axe has been laid at the root of self-government by this rule. The writer firmly believes that respectable persons will never consent to give votes by raising the hand standing by the side of the common people. The common people also will not come to vote neglecting their work. Owing to this rule perhaps 50 or 60 rate-payers, of whom the majority will consist of common people, who understand nothing and do what they see others do, will come to elect the Commissioners for a ward having 500 electors. Thus the Commissioner elected will be the representative of a very small number of people. It has also been ruled that, if one-tenth of the whole number of electors do not appear at the place where the election will be held, Government will understand that the electors are unable to select Commissioners, and will itself proceed to appoint Commissioners. Many persons believe that these two rules have been made by the Lieutenant-Governor from sinister motives. Last winter the virtuous Lieutenant-Governor and his worthy Secretary, Mr. Macaulay, pleased the people with sweet words about self-government. Many persons are now seeing that it is Mr. Thompson's object to deprive the people of the right of self-government by making it appear by the above rules that they are unfit for it. In many places a sufficient number of voters will not be able to be present on the spot where the election will be held. After this the officials will report that the people evince no interest in the Elective System. Lord Ripon will soon go out of the country, and then Mr. Thompson will not have to fear anybody. He will perhaps write a formidable minute to the effect that the people do not want self-government, and that irresponsible native Editors only want it. The writer is not willing to believe that the Lieutenant-Governor is so mean, but he can arrive at no other conclusion from his actions. The writer also says that the rules should have been published three or four months ago. The writer does not believe that the work of election will be satisfactorily done in such hurry. Mr. Thompson has entitled himself to the thanks of the public by giving the right of voting to all persons paying a tax of one rupee and a half, and also by making such persons eligible as Commissioners. Government has acted very injudiciously in fixing the 25th of November, which is the Calcutta Mail day, and which is not a holiday, as the day for the election of Commissioners for all the municipalities of Bengal.

SADHARANI

63. The same paper says that the Assistant Commissioner, Mr. Kennedy, discharged the planter Francis, and accused those who gave evidence against

The Defence Association and the Francis case.

him of perjury. The Defence Association, upon finding this opportunity, tried to prevent police officers from molesting planters in future by striking terror into their hearts by getting them punished. For this purpose the Association addressed a letter to the Chief Commissioner of Assam, requesting him to punish the police officers who prosecuted Mr. Francis, and the Civil Surgeon, who said that Francis had killed the cooly woman. Mr. Elliot has done well in not complying with the unjust request of the Association. Witnesses said that Mr. Francis had cruelly beaten the cooly woman. The Civil Surgeon also found upon examination that the deceased woman's kidney was very much swollen. Grievous hurt was the only cause of such swelling. Mr. Francis and the doctor of the plantation, who is completely under his influence alone, said that the woman had committed suicide by taking opium. The Defence Association has said that opium was found in the stomach of the deceased woman. But who knows whether the woman used to take opium or not? Where is also the impossibility of opium being found in the stomach of a person who habitually takes opium? Who again can tell that the woman was not made to take opium after she had been severely beaten? There is no doubt that the woman died owing to cruel beating. It cannot be ascertained what the decision would have been if Mr. Greer had tried the case. The action of the Defence Association has alarmed the writer.

64. The same paper says that no sane man ever expected that the Commissioner of Burdwan would admit the existence of public opinion. The writer does not like to say whether or not the people

Mr. Beames on public opinion in Bengal.

sympathize with Babu Surendro Nath. But all India believed that he had been unjustly punished by the High Court. For this reason there was agitation about the subject all over the country. No wire-pulling was necessary for setting on foot that agitation. Mr. Beames has said that only the people of Serampore evinced a real interest in the matter of self-government. The writer admits that all the sub-divisions of Bengal are not advanced like the Serampore sub-division. But if the officials had themselves taken the trouble to explain the nature of self-government to the people, instead of entrusting the police with the task, much more interest would have been evinced everywhere in the measure.

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Oct. 26th, 1884.

65. The same paper says that those who are really manly and have any substance in them do not care anything for the abuse poured upon them by the people. But the Lieutenant-Governor cannot bear the hostile criticism of native papers. He complained at Bali against the unjust attacks of the native papers against him. He has recently complained to Babu Shoshee Chunder Dutt against them.

SADHARANI.

66. A correspondent of the same paper says that rent in the khas mehals was enhanced on the following grounds:—(1) that the soil had become fertile without any effort on the part of the ryots; (2) that the rate of rent was lower than that of adjoining taluks. But it is not true that the soil has become more fertile. On the contrary, the people of several mouzahs are being deprived of the rice crop owing to want of drains for furnishing an outlet for the water that gathers in the fields. The reason of the higher rate of rent in the adjoining taluks is that the ryots possess more land there than that for which they pay rent. But in the khas mehals the ryots have to pay rent for even the ground where the dead bodies of cows, &c., are thrown. There is not a place in the village where the cattle of the ryots can graze. The system of realizing rent in the khas mehals also is very severe. The ryots are in a very miserable condition owing to rack-renting.

The khas mehals.

SADHARANI.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

67. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 27th October, says that it agrees with the Excise Commission in thinking that no civilized Government should allow secret

The outstill system.

distillation of spirit. But it wants that the cheapness of liquor which is the result of the outstill system should be removed. The Commission has recommended that the outstill system should be introduced in every part of Bengal with changes. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees in this view. The writer also is in favour of such a course if the necessary changes are made. The Lieutenant-Governor wishes that sudder distilleries should be re-established in those places alone in which, considering their extent, there is a large number of drunkards. For this reason he wishes to re-establish sudder distilleries in Patna, Gya, Arrah, Chupra, Bettia, Muzufferpore, Durbhanga, Monghyr, Jamalpore, Bhagulpore, Moorshedabad, Berhampore, Burdwan and Dacca. Outstills will remain in all other towns. But it will be seen that no mischief is done by them. The writer says that the evil produced by the outstills will be considerably remedied if the price of liquor per bottle, and the quantity that will be allowed to be distilled in each still, are fixed.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

68. The same paper says that the Postal authorities are trying to introduce the system of sending out articles from England to India in value payable parcels. The writer

The Value Payable parcel.

says that such facility in the transportation of articles from England to India will be injurious to the latter. It is true that the English merchants in Calcutta charge very high prices; but the price of English goods will soon decrease owing to competition. It is by no means advisable to injure native manufactures by facilitating the exportation of English goods.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

69. The same paper says that native papers will always seek to further the interests of natives. In order to accomplish this noble mission, they will have

Native papers.

from time to time to expose the oppressive proceedings of the officials. Referring to the Lieutenant-Governor's Resolution about the native press, the writer says that he is still partial to the English papers. If any paper deserved criminal prosecution, it was the *Englishman* and the *Indian Daily News*; but Mr. Thompson has not said that these papers deserved prosecution. However grave may be the offence committed by native papers, it is far less grave than that committed by the *Englishman* and its correspondent *Britannicus*; but Mr. Thompson has not taken the *Englishman* and the *Bengal Times* to task for the offence which they are still committing. From the violent and seditious spirit displayed by the Anglo-Indian papers, and the vulgar abuse which they poured upon Government and natives upon the infliction of a slight wound upon their vanity, it is evident that violence is deeply ingrained in their nature. Because they have nothing to complain of, because they obtain what they want, because the officials are completely under their influence, and because no one ventures to do them injustice, they have not always to complain against the officials. Government acted according to their wishes in the matter of the Ilbert Bill, consequently the violence of the agitation set on foot by them diminished. But native editors, whose countrymen are deprived of lawful rights, suffer much injustice and oppression, and are often injured by officials intentionally or unintentionally, have often to complain against the officials. It is inevitable that, when so many occurrences of so many different places are to be spoken of, officials will be at times unjustly accused by native editors through mistake. The writer does not deny that some native papers go beyond justice and gentlemanliness. But the preferring of a sweeping charge against native newspapers is wrong on Mr. Thompson's part. Mr. Thompson should have remembered that native editors are

obliged to complain so often against the officials owing to their peculiar situation. If to expose the faults of the officials is defamation, to show the injustice done by law courts false accusation, and to show the numerous faults of a Governor like Mr. Thompson disloyalty, native editors are guilty of those offences; but so long as they remain editors, they will have to do the above things. Mr. Thompson's anger against the native press would have been justifiable if no injustice had been done by English Judges and officials. In order that there may not be unjust accusations against the officials in native papers, both native editors and the officials will have to reform themselves. The writer says that, if the officials really believe that native papers do not represent public opinion, and consequently need not be listened to, there is no knowing what disaster may befall them. But the Lieutenant-Governor does not believe what he has said. Had he believed that native papers do not represent public opinion, he would not have taken the trouble to censure them in this manner.

70. The same paper says that in no country does the whole population think about social and political questions.

Public opinion in India.

How many thoughtful persons were there among the thousands who were present at the Hyde Park and Manchester demonstrations? The Western political leaders themselves have said that "the educated minority always guides the uneducated majority." The opinion of the educated minority becomes in course of time the public opinion. Those who disregard the opinion of the educated minority, practically disregard the opinion of the whole country. The Indian officials, pointing to the small number of the educated minority, say that there is no public opinion in this country; but there is no knowing when they will come to understand that the opinion of this educated minority is the opinion of the uneducated majority. The officials do not see the difference between the uneducated majority of twenty years ago, and the uneducated majority of the present time. For this reason they disregard the opinion of the educated minority. Whether it be the Ilbert Bill, or the imprisonment of Babu Surendra Nath, whether it be the system of self-government or the Rent Bill, to say nothing of the men, even the women know something of all important political matters. In reply to Mr. Beames, who has said that there is no public opinion in his division, or in any part of India, and that the political meetings held in the mofussil are the results of the incitement of emissaries sent by the agitators in Calcutta, the writer says that, if wire-pulling is not condemnable in England, if the Defence Association does not deserve blame for inciting Englishmen in the mofussil to agitate violently, if the efforts of emissaries like Mr. Atkins for protecting English interests by travelling in various places are not blameworthy, if such agitation is regarded as public opinion, why should not the agitation spoken of by him also be regarded as public opinion? In speaking about public opinion in India, the Presidency Commissioner has also fallen into the error common among the Civilians. He says that the common people in this country take no interest in political questions. If the common people take no interest in political questions, why does Government always frown upon native papers? There should be no reason for any apprehension if a few educated natives only are furious. Why are the officials, then, so much afraid? The real fact is that the Indian officials know that there is a public opinion in this country, but as acting in defiance of this opinion is very convenient, they are eager to deny its existence. But this will not do much longer. The despotic officials will have soon to bend before the public opinion of this conquered country.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

71. The same paper says that the nature of the work done by any department depends upon the men engaged in it. In the Chief Meteorological

The Meteorological Department.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

Office of the United States there are 143 persons. Most of these persons are unrivalled in the knowledge of meteorological science; but in the Chief Meteorological Office of India, there are only Mr. Blanford, an European assistant, and 16 clerks. These men are preparing the Meteorological Report for the whole of India. The Government of this country should take a lesson in this matter from the American Government.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

72. The same paper says that it hears that the people in the mofussil do not approve of the rules regarding Municipal election. It has been ruled that unless one-tenth of the whole number of registered electors are present at the place where the election will take place, Government will appoint the Commissioners. Every one is protesting against this rule. They say that many people will not be able to appear at the place of election for various reasons. If Government desires to introduce the elective system into the country, it should alter the rule about the presence of the electors at the place of election. It should be simply ruled that electors will be able to elect Commissioners at the place of election, and if they are not able to be present on the spot, they will have to send the voting paper carefully to the Municipal Office. If the above rule is made, it will not be necessary for electors to be present at the place where the election will take place. The 25th of November again, on which the election will take place, is no holiday; consequently many people will not be able to be present at the place of election. The writer says that the officials and the electors have not been allowed sufficient time to elect according to the new rules. The rules were published at the end of the first week of October. It was required that the names of the Commissioners should be forwarded within 14 days from the date of publication of the rules. The writer apprehends that there has been much confusion owing to this hurry. The writer cannot comprehend the reason of the rule that no person who has not lived in a place for one year will be allowed to vote. Anyone who has property within the municipal jurisdiction should be allowed to vote.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

73. The same paper complains that it was not enquired whether the woman killed by Mr. Francis used to eat opium, whether opium was given to her before her death, and whether opium can be found in the stomach of an opium-eater after death. He also complains that the report of the Civil Surgeon of Golaghat was disbelieved. The unjust persistence of the Defence Association has pained the writer. The Association requested the Chief Commissioner of Assam to punish the police, who prosecuted Mr. Francis, and the Civil Surgeon, who said that the woman had died owing to severe beating; but their desire has not been fulfilled. Mr. Elliot has supported the cause of the police and the Civil Surgeon. For this reason the Association has become very angry with Mr. Elliot. The Association is now trying to get the coolies who gave evidence against Mr. Francis punished for giving false evidence. It is making this effort for preventing men from giving evidence in future against planters. The writer is troubled at heart on thinking of the gloomy prospect before the unfortunate coolies.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

74. The same paper says that there is scarcity of food in Burdwan and Moorshedabad; also Government has granted Rs. 15,000 for the relief of the famine-afflicted people of the Burdwan Division. The authorities should see whether the rate of wages given to the labourers is proper. Poor gentlemen and the helpless and disabled will not be able to work. Arrangements should be made for affording them relief. Government should grant more money for the relief of the people. The people also should contribute

money for the relief of the distressed. The zemindars should now give proof of their friendliness to their ryots.

75. The same paper complains that there is no mention of India this time also in the Queen's speech.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

76. A correspondent of the *Som Prakāsh*, of the 27th October, says that crops could not be cultivated in thana Sonamukhi in Bancoora during the last three years owing to want of rainfall, consequently the people are suffering very much from scarcity of food. Unless the Government affords these people relief, much evil will be produced.

77. The same paper says that great injustice has been done to Baboo Poresnath Palit, lately the head-clerk in a post office in N. L. Division. He prayed for transfer to another place owing to illness, and made arrangements with another head-clerk about their mutual transfer. The writer says that it was very cruel not to transfer him under these circumstances.

SOM PRAKASH,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

78. The same paper says that it will be seen from the letter of a correspondent given above that crops could not be cultivated in Bancoora owing to want of rainfall. It being so, famine is apprehended. The ryots are placed in a very miserable condition at such times. How can the ryots be saved from the distress which they suffer on such occasions? The writer does not think that Government will be able to save ryots from such distress by conferring upon them the occupancy right. If lands which have no water near it can be irrigated by canals, the present evil may be remedied. But there are great obstacles to this. In many places again, canals far from being beneficial become injurious. The best means of improving the condition of the ryots, says the writer, is to teach them industrial arts, whereby they will be able to add to their income from agricultural operations.

SOM PRAKASH.

79. The same paper says that the Balasore National Society has sent Baboo Shoshi Bhushan Mukerjea to enquire into the oppression in connection with the Orissa canal. He has brought 57 petitions from 846 mouzahs. The petitions contain the signatures of 2,100 persons. The petitioners speak about three things:—(1) the injury done by the canal; (2) the oppression committed by the canal officers; and (3) how the evil can be remedied. Regarding the injury done by the canal, they say that the canal cannot supply high grounds which need water very much with water, and that it washes the surface of the low ground which do not need water by pouring too much water upon them; that the ryots cannot derive any benefit from the rain water, inasmuch as almost all of it falls into the numerous branches of the canal, and consequently they have to pay a heavy tax for artificial water; that fields are losing their fertility, inasmuch as silt cannot be deposited upon them owing to the raising of embankment, and that a heavy tax is charged for the use of the canal water; that the whole amount of the tax is realized in one instalment; that tax is charged upon all but khamar lands; that cattle are not allowed to graze upon the embankment or beside it, and that water cannot be had in winter or summer when it is most needed. As regards the oppression committed by the canal officers, the petitioners say that, if they are not bribed, they do not supply water in proper time; that they let water flow upon the ground when water is not needed and thereby destroy the crops; that they send cattle to pound under the pretext that these have trespassed upon the embankment; that the ryots are seized for arrears of tax without any notice

SOM PRAKASH

being given in proper time, or in most cases without any notice being given at all; that taxes are charged upon lands which do not need water and are not supplied with it; that water is poured upon those lands the proprietors of which do not want water, and then double tax is charged on them under the pretence that they have stolen water; that those who cannot pay tax are very much oppressed; that they forcibly enter the ryots' houses and seize the first thing that they get, and that even ornaments are taken away from the persons of women. The petitioners pray that Government should exempt those who do not want water, and are not supplied with it, from tax; that Government should pay damage to those whose crops are destroyed by the pouring of water when not wanted; that due notice should be given to those who are unable to pay tax, that the tax should be collected in three instalments; that good men should be appointed as ijardars; that those lands which cannot derive any benefit from rainfall on account of the canal should be supplied with water gratis; that good arrangements should be made regarding ferry boats; that cattle should be allowed to graze upon the slope of the embankment towards the fields. The writer says that Government should do its best to put a stop to the oppressions complained of by appointing a Commission to enquire into the matter. The writer says that in most cases the people cannot derive any benefit from the measures adopted by Government for their benefit owing to the faults of the officers.

SOM PRAKASH,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

80. The same paper says that the recurrence of famines of late years cannot be attributed to the loss of the fertility of the soil. No such change in the climate has taken place of late years as can deprive the soil of its fertility. The high price of commodities is due to two reasons:—(1) increase in the wealth of a country; (2) the rarity of commodity. This country is gradually becoming poorer and poorer. More gold and silver goes out of the country than comes into it, consequently the high price of rice is not due to the first cause, but to the rarity of it. Exportation of rice to other countries in large quantities, and the cultivation of jute on an extensive scale, is the cause of the rarity of rice. Many rice-fields have now been converted into jute-fields. Under these circumstances, in order to remove the distress of the people, Government should try to diminish the exportation of rice and jute, and such a policy is against free trade principles no doubt, but it should be adopted, inasmuch as it is necessary to do so for removing the distress of the people.

SOM PRAKASH.

81. The same paper says that it is not surprised at the false accusations made by the *Englishman* and the *Pioneer* against native papers, knowing that it is their business to please the Anglo-Indians who feed them. But it is strange that even the officials accuse native papers of offences of which they are innocent. In the Administration Report of the Presidency Division native papers have been accused of imputing unworthy motives to officials and law courts. The Lieutenant-Governor was requested to allow the prosecution of three native papers; but he did well in not complying with those requests. But he should have instructed some disinterested and intelligent official to enquire into the truth of the statements made by the native papers in question. By not doing so he has confirmed in the minds of the officials the impression that native papers make false accusations against persons. If any native paper is found guilty of preferring false charges it should be adequately punished. The writer says that if enquiries are not made into the conduct of the officials or Judges who are really guilty, their faults are never corrected. From the administration report of

The Bengali papers.

the Presidency Division, it is evident that the Bengali papers are not properly translated. Had they been properly translated, the impression that native papers are against Government could never have taken root in the minds of the officials. It is very unreasonable to think native papers to be against Government, merely because they differ from the Governor in opinion. There is another wrong impression about Bengali newspapers in the minds of the officials. They believe that the Editors of Bengali papers have no opinions of their own, and that they accept what the native papers conducted in English say. The Editor for one never borrows from any other paper. The similarity of the opinions expressed by him with those expressed in other native papers is to be expected, as those papers also are conducted by natives. This wrong impression also is due to the articles in different papers not being fully translated. The officials are so much angry with native papers because the latter differ from them in many matters. The officials think themselves to be very clever, and are very much offended when native papers differ from them in any matter. The Editor gives the following instance of the mistaken opinion of the officials. They think that the ryots have become rich, because some of them wear shoes and use umbrellas; but this is not due to their prosperity but to their desire for luxury in imitation of their betters. That they are not well off is evident from the fact that they are placed in a very miserable condition during years of bad harvest. The writer also gives an instance of the partiality of Government. He says that the Magistrates are provided with good dwelling-houses and court houses, while the Munsiff's courts are nothing but wretched hovels.

82. The same paper says that nothing of the Rent Bill will remain if all the portions of it which have been objected to by those who are against it are left out. The writer has heard that the Select Committee is still amending the Bill. The writer does not desire that Lord Ripon should pass it in an unfinished state.

SOM PRAKASH,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

83. The same paper is glad that the authorities of the Tarkesvar Railway have employed Babu Purna Chunder Singh, who served with great credit as the Assistant Manager of Calcutta South-Eastern State Railway.

SOM PRAKASH.

84. The same paper says that the high English officials do not sympathize even with the high native officials. The Deputy Magistrate of Nurrul, being seriously ill, requested the Magistrate to send the Civil Surgeon to attend him. But as the Civil Surgeon did not till too late start for the place where the Deputy Magistrate was, the Deputy Magistrate died. Had the Deputy Magistrate been a European, could the Magistrate and the Civil Surgeon have neglected him in this manner?

SOM PRAKASH.

85. The *Prabhati*, of the 27th October, says that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal thinks that native newspapers came within the clutches of the criminal law, but perhaps he does not think that his favourite *Englishman* and the *Bengal Times* did come under them.

PRABHATI,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

The writer asks His Honor whether the Government officials can plead not guilty to the charges brought against them by the native press. Can the Government say that it is not throwing obstacles in the way of the improvement of the natives? Can it say that it has not shown the extremity of anti-native feeling in the matter of the Ilbert Bill and of the Self-Government Bill? Are not Major Ramsay and Mr. Taylor worthy of censure? Would Mr. Thompson have punished them if the native press shrunk from denouncing them? The native press is blamed for publishing falsehood, and believing in rumours? Is the case of Mr. Webb

a false one? The Europeans will insult natives at any time and at any place, and will not the native press give publicity to cases of such insults? Is it to fill the papers with the panegyrics of Englishmen? His Honor says that the native press is an exponent to the views of its conductors. If so, His Honor can value them at their worth. But he knows that the public is gradually becoming acquainted through the native press with the facts of the oppression and injustice of Englishmen, and so rebukes the press. His Honor should know that what the heart feels the mouth speaks, and that sympathy and kind treatment can easily win hearts of men better than anything else.

SAMAYA,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

86. The *Samaya*, of the 27th October, says that the time for the retirement of Lord Ripon is drawing near.

The people of India have unanimously declared that they have not got such a Governor-General for a long time. Though he was not successful in carrying out all the measures he proposed, he has done much for our country. The writer wishes to accord him as warm a reception as was accorded to him on his return from the hills last winter. Something should be done to perpetuate his memory in India. A marble statue will not be a suitable monument for a good man like Lord Ripon. His name should live in some solid work of public utility.

SAMAYA.

87. The same paper says that Major Ramsay has been deservedly punished, degraded, and exposed for his strenuous attempt to send the Kishnagore students to jail.

The writer is sorry for Mr. Taylor. Had he the strength of mind to resist the importunities of Major Ramsay, he would not have been exposed in this way in his old age. Such exhibitions of weakness could never have taken place if His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal had acted with impartiality. The two officers would never have acted in the way they have done, had they known that His Honor's opinions had changed since the resolution on the Dacca student's case. The day on which the Dacca resolution appeared in the Gazette the students fell under the displeasure of the officers. Major Ramsay admitted in his cross examination that telegrams were sent to His Honor to inform him about the case. His Honor also has admitted this; but he says he did not think it advisable to interfere at that stage of the proceedings of the case. The writer does not understand what His Honor means. The officers at Kishnagore would never have ventured to proceed with the case if His Honor hinted that this was a case of gross and severe oppression. The writer asks that if the students were punished, would His Honor have punished the prosecutors? Would not the tone of his resolution have been very different from what it is? His Honor says that the case at Dacca was of a different nature. The writer says that the students at Dacca was not fortunate enough to secure the services of an able advocate like Mr. Ghosh in the lower court, and that is the only difference between these two cases.

SAMAYA

88. The same paper says that it is a well known fact that the tenants of Government in the khas mehals are very badly off. The writer is glad to find that the Chief Justice has come forward to advocate the cause of the ryots in the khas mehals. Government is driving the tenants in the khas mehals to a state of helplessness by fresh enactments, but the Tenancy Bill does not contain a single word about the estates belonging to Government. Sir Richard is of opinion that the power of Government over its ryots should not be greater than that of the zemindars over theirs, and that it is cruel to realise rent by issuing certificates. The writer hopes that the Government of India will try to introduce the provisions of the Rent Bill in

Sir Richard Garth on the Rent Bill.

to the khas mehals. If Government wants to obtain the entire power of oppressing the ryots by excluding the zemindars, the Rent Bill should not be passed.

89. The same paper learns from the *Indian Mirror* that Mr. Thompson wants to appoint Mr. Abdur Rahaman and Babu Grish Chundra Ghosh as members of the Bengal Legislative Council. The writer cannot believe this. Though nothing is impossible with Mr. Thompson, he is not likely to venture to do so much. The only recommendation of Mr. Abdur Rahaman appears to be his seconding the proposal of M. Buckland at a meeting of the Commissioners of Calcutta not to oppose the appointment of the Commission under section 28. His Honor has committed various serious mistakes, but he should avoid falling into such mistakes any more. He should not be led away by the advice of bad men to take Mr. Abdur Rahaman into his Council. The whole country will rejoice if the choice if His Honor falls on such men as Mr. M. Ghose, Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, Mr. T. Palit, Babus Hem Chundra Banerjee and Gurudas Banerji.

SAMAYA,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

90. The same paper says that the *Englishman* newspaper and the Defence Association contend that the Civil Surgeon did not examine the dead body carefully, though Mr. Elliot distinctly says that he has done so. The *Englishman* would rather believe the statement of the doctor in the garden than that of the Civil Surgeon, though the *Englishman* is not in the habit of doing so. Does the *Englishman* know who pays the doctor in the garden? The statement of the Civil Surgeon is corroborated by that of Mr. Francis that the coolie girl had squabbles with other coolie women, and that she fell down. Admitting for argument's sake that she was not struck by Mr. Francis, she might have died of the injuries previously received. The presence of opium in the abdomen may also be accounted for by supposing that it was administered to alleviate her pains.

SAMAYA.

91. The same paper attributes the frequency of famines to the large export of grains, to the appropriation of a large area of rice land to the cultivation of jute, and to the enhancement of rent owing to the rise of prices. These causes have reduced nearly 60 per cent. of the population to the state of slavery. The cultivators want capital. If Government can make arrangements to lend them capital by establishing agricultural banks, it will confer a great boon on the country.

SAMAYA

92. The same paper quotes the remarks of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal that the native press is only an exponent of the views of its conductors, and not of those of the people of the province, and says this is the idea which the civilian class is anxious to propagate in England; but the writer says that the native press gives expression to the views of the people at large, and of nobody else. The society wears a quiet appearance only, because its discontent finds expression through the native press; otherwise it would have been all on fire by this time.

SAMAYA.

93. The same paper is glad to notice that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor intends to spend a few days in the famine-stricken district of Beerbhoom, and to see the condition of the distressed people with his own eyes.

SAMAYA.

94. The same paper says that though the vacation of almost all the civil courts in the province has come to an end, that of the Calcutta High Court is not yet over. Do the Judges of the High Court work harder than the judicial officers in the mofussil? The High Court enjoys holidays for about

SAMAYA.

The rumoured elevation of Mr. Abdur Rahaman to the Bengal Legislative Council.

Mr. Francis' case.

The causes of famine.

Mr. Thompson on the native press.

Mr. Thompson's tour in Beerbhoom.

The vacation of the High Court Judges.

six months in the year in spite of the block of work. An agitation should be set on foot against this long vacation.

SAMAYA,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

The lime-juice of Priyanath De.

95. The same paper has the following:—We are glad to notice that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has ordered the use of the non-alcoholic lime-juice prepared by Babu Priyalal De, son of Dr. Rai Kanailal De, Bahadur, on boardships carrying native passengers. Priya Babu has shown that men can easily succeed in the world in independent profession instead of depending upon slavery. There are many articles in the country by preparing which men can obtain a large profit. Not only is the inventor benefitted by the preparation of articles of commerce, but the wealth of the country is also increased thereby.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

96. The following observations are extracted from an article in the *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 27th October, headed the "Lieutenant-Governor's Resolution on the Kishnagore students' case." The Government Resolution on the Kishnagore students' case has taken the people of this country by surprise and that for various reasons. They consider it strange that Mr. Thompson who in connection with the Jurisdiction Bill allowed himself to be guided by the opinion of European officials in this country, in disregard of all considerations of duty, religion, and morality, as well as of all requirements of his own official position, who ever since he assumed charge of the administration of Bengal has upheld the unparalleled high-handed conduct of local officials, has been able to punish the Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police of Nuddea for their oppressive conduct in connection with that case. They are also asking themselves, why is it that the Lieutenant-Governor who has passed over in silence many graver cases of oppression on students is now speaking out on the present case? There are also many other points about the resolution under notice which have caused surprise to the people. Thus, for instance, His Honor has censured the local authorities of Kishnagore in this document. Has Mr. Thompson been asleep since he assumed charge of the Bengal administration, and has he now awoken? The acts of high-handedness in connection with the Kishnagore students' case, for which he now censures the local authorities, are but too common in this country. In almost every annual report the Lieutenant-Governor himself is found to refer to the fact that the police is in the habit of sending up people for trial without any enquiry or proof of their guilt; nor is it a novel disclosure that the Magistrates to gain their own ends are wont to make over cases for trial to the file of selected officers. It is also well known that not a few subordinate officers have had to suffer punishment for their inability to commit illegal acts in obedience to the orders of their official superiors, and that not unoften the police collect evidence against a person after he has been sent up for the trial. Why then has Mr. Thompson censured the local authorities of Kishnagore alone for these things? Mr. Manson, the Magistrate of Chittagong, and Mr. Rattray, the head of the Pubna district Police, were guilty of oppressive conduct a hundred times more severe than that which has been laid at the door of Mr. Tayler and Major Ramsay. Be that as it may, it is fortunate that the Lieutenant-Governor has at length awoken from his slumbers. There are, however, many in this country who are not satisfied with this resolution and many others who instead of thanking Mr. Thompson are blaming him for it, many believe that the local authorities of Kishnagore will on reading this resolution find themselves in the position of the man who was, as the saying has it, condemned as a thief by the person for whose benefit he had committed the theft. The Editor agrees with the *Statesman* in holding that after blaming the Presidency Commissioner and the local officials of Kishnagore for what they did or omitted to do in connection with the students' case, His Honor should have remarked

that he himself was wholly to blame for what had occurred in reference to that case. If the sense of justice on the part of the people of Bengal had been less marked than their knowledge of politics, they would not have in all probability blamed Mr. Thompson for his past acts, but feeling that His Honor had returned to a proper frame of mind would have encouraged him to persevere in his present line of conduct. What harm is there in saying that Mr. Thompson has of his own motion recorded this resolution when it is not certainly known whether the action has been due to pressure put upon him by superior authority, or to the fact of his coming at length to know the truth? Nevertheless, the resolution in question would have proved more beneficial if he had frankly acknowledged his fault. It must be, however, admitted that by recording it Mr. Thompson has laid the people of Bengal under a deep obligation.

97. The same paper remarks that a great agitation has been carried on in the columns of native newspapers since the advent of Lord Ripon into India. Lord

The native newspapers.

Ripon sought to reverse the repressive policy of Lord Lytton's administration towards the people of this country. In this he was opposed by Anglo-Indians and supported by natives. The agitation thus set on foot became fearful in connection with the Jurisdiction Bill, and reached even England. The natives did not at first join in the agitation, but were compelled to do so in consequence of the abuses which began to be heaped, and the oppressions which began to be committed upon them by Anglo-Indians. Subsequently the agitation was kept alive by Mr. Thompson's resolution against the school-boys and the students' cases in Dacca and Kishnagore, by miscarriage of justice in certain cases in which Europeans were charged with having murdered natives, and with other grave offences against them, by the advice given by the *Times* to gag native newspapers—an advice which it was believed was not altogether unpalatable to the Bengal Government, and by Mr. Gladstone's recent utterances in Scotland on the subject of a Press Act for India. From the recent resolution of Mr. Thompson on native newspapers, and the remarks of the Commissioner Mr. Beames on the same subject, it would appear that these officials are not much pleased at the attitude of Mr. Gladstone towards native papers. From the way they have expressed themselves on the subject, it seems that their intention is to indirectly protest against the views enunciated by the Premier.

98. The same paper remarks that the recent resolution of the Lieutenant-Governor on native newspapers has greatly disappointed the public. The exalted position he fills in the country should have led him to maintain silence on this topic. He has in the resolution dwelt upon the merits and demerits of native papers, and to decide in reference to the present quarrel between native and Anglo-Indian journals how far each class is guilty, a task which it is impossible for him to accomplish. The native papers have exposed what they conceive to be the many shortcomings of his administration and the high-handed acts of officers subordinate to him, consequently any hostile criticism of these papers coming from him is not likely to command much respect. Native papers again have a quarrel with the *Pioneer* and the *Englishman*—journals with which Mr. Thompson is believed to be intimately connected, which are known to support his acts and to possess great influence over him. It was not therefore proper for him to attempt to decide as to the merits of the quarrel between these journals on the one hand, and native papers on the other. Apart from these preliminary objections, the very nature of his criticisms is not likely to inspire much respect for them in the public mind. His Honor is prepared to excuse native papers for their excited writing during the progress of the Jurisdiction

Government resolution on native papers.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

Bill controversy. The Editor is thankful to him for this, but truth should have compelled His Honor to say that in those discussions it was not native but Anglo-Indian papers which first indulged in abuse; and that further it was owing to oppression committed upon Bengalis by Anglo-Indians, and in some places even by officials, that native papers wrote anything disagreeable. His Honor proceeds to remark that after the termination of the Jurisdiction Bill controversy, Anglo-Indian papers have not been guilty of any reckless writing, but not so the native papers, many of which are still found to indulge in it, as is evidenced by the fact that three native judicial officers asked Government for permission to prosecute three native papers—a prayer which was refused by Mr. Thompson. If His Honor had considered the matter impartially, he would have probably felt ashamed to write what he has written. It is impossible for him to deny that the *Pioneer*, the *Englishman*, and the *Indian Daily News* frequently contain writing which clearly shews that they hate natives as powerfully, and are as anxious to plant obstacles in the way of their progress as they were during the Jurisdiction Bill agitation. If he denied this, the conclusion would be that he was not a reader of any Anglo-Indian daily paper. The statement that His Honor might have, if he had so desired, caused the prosecution of three native papers out of a hundred which are published in these provinces is not entitled to much weight, considering that neither the names of those journals nor the extent of their guilt are mentioned by him, but it is well known that the *Englishman*, one of the three Anglo-Indian dailies of this city, was actually prosecuted for having libelled the native jailor of Gowhatty, and would have been most probably punished, but for the apology made by the Editor to the injured person. Again, the three native journals referred to condemned three native judicial officers—a fact which goes a long way to show that the Editors were not in their writings actuated by malice, while it is clear that the *Englishman* maliciously libelled a native jailor. It behoved the Lieutenant-Governor to consider one thing, namely, that native boys in this country are oppressed by the authorities as European boys never are; that natives never oppress Europeans as Europeans like Webb oppress natives; and that English boys are never criminally prosecuted as the Kishnagore students have been, consequently Anglo-Indians papers have not one of the causes to make them excited which operate so powerfully to cause excitement among native papers. The way the *Englishman* and the *Indian Daily News* have got excited over the petty case of Mr. Walker of Purneah and that of Mr. Francis ought to have shown His Honor that in view of the oppression which is committed upon natives they show great patience, and that the causes which really excite them are such as would have driven Anglo-Indians into rebellion. It further behoved His Honor to consider that the authorities are so continually labouring to do Europeans good as to leave them little room for agitation, and that if Government had done for natives but a hundredth part of what it has done for Europeans, there would have been hardly any sign of discontent noticed in the native press. As long as Mr. Thompson remains the head of the Anglo-Indian community with which natives are at feud, he cannot expect to receive that homage from them to which as Lieutenant-Governor he is entitled. He would have done better if he had contended himself with only reproducing in his resolution the remarks of Mr. Stevens on the native press.

99. The same paper remarks that the *Englishman* is afraid lest Bengalis should join the people of Bombay in presenting Lord Ripon with an address on the eve of his departure from this country. The Editor expresses his gratitude to His Excellency for the good he has done to the people of India, and for his

noble efforts, however unsuccessful, to benefit them. He has suffered a good deal in his endeavours in this direction.

100. The same paper remarks that Mr. Thompson seems to be very sorry that native papers do not enjoy the confidence of the people, and do not possess any influence. If this is true, why does he trouble himself with criticising their tone and spirit?

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Oct. 27th, 1884.

101. The same paper observes in reference to Mr. Thompson's remark that the police commit many high-handed acts; that it behoved His Honor to dwell upon this fact when he recorded his resolution on Mr. Rattray's case in Pubna. Perhaps his mind was at the time wholly taken up with the Jurisdiction Bill agitation.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

102. The same paper expresses the hope that much good will result from Mr. Walker's case. The police and Mr. Walker are equally strong.

103. The same paper approves of the remarks made by Mr. Thompson on the report of the Outstill Commission. The Editor hopes that His Honor will by his acts gratify the people as he is gratifying them by his words.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

104. The same paper remarks that though it is desirable that Sir Richard Garth should be removed from his present post of Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court, inasmuch as since his arrival in this country the confidence of the people in that Court has gradually diminished, still his removal by Government, if it is based on his writing the minute against the Rent Bill, would be extremely injurious to the interests of this country, because such an act would completely destroy the independence of the High Court Judges.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

105. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 28th October, says that Lord Ripon requested Mr. Thompson to make a searching enquiry into the Kishnagore students case. Mr. Thompson found after the perusal of the papers that the Kishnagore authorities were greatly to blame for bringing about the prosecution. He has himself admitted that never in his life did he come across a case of such gross injustice.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI
Oct. 28th, 1884.

If any native paper points out any defect of the administration it is at once branded as disloyal, ungrateful, and so forth. It is doubtful whether those that use such language with regard to native press are friends of British rule in India. Much good is done by exposing the faults of the officers. For when a case of oppression is known, remedy can be applied to it. Suppression of the cases of oppression breeds discontent and lowers Government in the estimation of the people. If Mr. Thompson continues to do justice to the people in the same way as he has done in the Kishnagore students' case, he will soon succeed in winning the hearts of the people.

106. The same paper says that by the new rules for the election of Commissioners in mofussil municipalities, females have been excluded from exercising their power of voting. Females have always voted at the elections at Burdwan. The writer does not understand why they have been excluded this time.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI

The rate-payers who pay their taxes regularly should have been included in the list of voters, and residence of 12 months immediately preceding the elections should not have been made obligatory in their case.

Under the present circumstances the right of voting should not have been made dependent on the possession of a certain amount of property.

It is not easy for ignorant men to select the best man for their Commissioner, and therefore educated men should have been granted the right of voting without any property qualification.

The exclusion of written votes will prevent many worthy men from giving their votes, for instance, those that cannot be present owing to pressure of business, and those that do not like to mix in the crowd would have no voice in the selection of their Commissioners. Where the rate-payer is a minor, the executor should have been given the power of voting on behalf of the minor.

There is no likelihood of all the rate-payers coming to the polling office at one and the same time, and enumeration of votes by the show of hands will be attended by serious disadvantages.

There is no provision of holding a fresh election in the ward, ten per cent. of the registered voters of which have failed to attend and to record their votes.

The rules that have been issued are incomplete, and they will not be sufficient to attain the desired object. They should be amended.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Oct. 28th, 1884.

107. The same paper says that it has often brought the news of the severe scarcity in Burdwan to the notice of the Government and of the public. But no attempt

The scarcity in Burdwan.

has yet been made to relieve the distress. A succession of bad years have impoverished the people and reduced them to a helpless condition. Men and gods have set their faces against them. The money-lenders refuse to advance money to them. Really there will be no end of troubles of the poor people this year.

The writer is of opinion that the Government has not yet been able to realise the true state of things in Burdwan. The reports of officers cannot furnish Government with all necessary information. But who is there to make a house-to-house enquiry? The writer thinks that the Union Committees, if they had been established by this time, would have done an invaluable service in this affair.

The writer hears that a man has died for want of food in the vicinity of Buddud. Government wants to relieve those only who are able-bodied, but this will not relieve those who have no means of subsistence. People must collect subscription to relieve those who have nothing else but charity to keep their body and soul together.

The Government of Bengal has sent a number of questions to the Collector of Burdwan, and the Maharajah of Burdwan has, as requested by the Collector, sent them to the patnidars. The letters were issued on the 1st of Kartic, and answer demanded on the 12th. The replies of the patnidars will be very hastily drawn up, and they will be as useless as police reports on such questions.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

108. The same paper says that last year there was great irregularity in selling contract for the Burdwan Road Committee. The same irregularity has

Burdwan Road Cess contracts.

happened this year too. In one case the lowest tender has not been accepted. This is not as it should be. Rs. 20,000 are spent every year on the Katwa road. But it is in an extremely wretched condition. The Committee should engage two contractors on different parts of the road in order that the work may be better done on account of their competition.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

109. The same paper says that scarcity is greatest in Buddud and the relief works are insufficient. The Magistrate

The relief works in Buddud.

has made a proclamation to the effect that anyone suffering from want of food may go to Sitarampore, where railway work will be commenced in five or six days. He has consented to pay the train hire of those that cannot go on foot.

110. The same paper is glad to hear that Mr. Thompson will go to Beerbhum on the 31st of October. He will see the wretched condition of the poor with his own eyes, and then go to Sitarampur. His Honor should see the condition of the people in Buddud.

Mr. Thompson in Beerbhum.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI
Oct. 28th, 1884.

111. The *Surabhi*, of the 28th October, is glad to learn that a Committee has been formed in Calcutta for making arrangements for according a cordial reception to Lord Ripon on his arrival in Calcutta, and for erecting a suitable memorial to perpetuate his memory.

Committee for the reception of Lord Ripon.

SURABHI,
Oct. 23th, 1884.

Rumour about the appointment of Mr. Abdur Rahaman and Baboo Girish Chunder Ghose as members of the Bengal Council.

112. The same paper says that the *Indian Mirror* says that the barrister Mr. Abdur Rahman and the attorney Baboo Girish Chunder Ghose will be appointed members of the Bengal Council. If this is true, it will be proved that Mr. Thompson possesses at least the merit of favouring his protégés. It is natural that Mr. Thompson should be grateful to Mr. Abdur Rahaman, who supported his conduct towards the Municipal Commissioners. It is not known for what merit Baboo Girish Chunder will be taken into the Council. Perhaps Mr. Thompson is seized with consternation upon seeing an able native in the Council.

SURABHI.

113. The same paper thanks Mr. Beveridge for having lately drawn the attention of Government to the misery of the Munsiffs. He has observed that their court houses are damp, small, and low, and that their dwelling-houses are equally wretched.

The misery of the Munsiffs.

SURABHI.

114. The same paper does not agree with the Excise Commission in thinking that changes in social and religious opinion and increase in the wealth of the people are causes of the increase of drunkenness, though the cheapness of liquor must be admitted to be its principal cause. The writer cannot understand how the Commission concluded that increase in the wealth of the people is a cause of the increase of drunkenness. The money which men would formerly save or spend upon their maintenance they now spend upon liquor. Is this a sign of the improvement of their position?

The cause of the increase of drunkenness.

SURABHI.

115. The same paper says that in the opinion of the Outstill Commission the evils produced by the outstill system are not so much due to the system as to its manner of working. Consequently they say that the outstills need not be abolished; and that only careful superintendence is necessary. The writer says that if a system is not bad how can its manner of working be bad? The country will not prosper so long as the outstill system is not totally done away with.

The outstill system.

SURABHI.

116. The same paper is glad to hear that the Lieutenant-Governor has severely reprovved the Magistrate of Dacca for not entertaining the suit instituted against Mr. Marriot, and for not reporting to Government about the Joint-Magistrate's bad conduct.

Mr. Marriot's case.

SURABHI.

117. The same paper referring to the letter addressed by the Defence Association to the Chief Commissioner of Assam, regarding the Francis case, says that there is very small chance of justice being done in cases between natives and European, but that if the Defence Association interferes in every case against a European, justice will not be at all done. The writer is glad that the Chief Commissioner has given a proper reply to the letter of the Defence Association. The writer believes that the Magistrate has done a great injustice by releasing Mr. Francis. The Chief Commissioner should have taken the Magistrate to task.

The Defence Association and the Francis case.

SURABHI.

SURABHI,
Oct. 28th, 1884.

118. The same paper says that the coming 25th of November is a very important day for Bengal. The future of self-government in Bengal depends upon that day. The Lieutenant-Governor has passed the Municipal Act in such a form, and has made such rules regarding the election of Commissioners as will make the system of self-government a failure, still the people of Bengal may frustrate his evil intention by electing able and conscientious men as Commissioners.

SURABHI.

119. The same paper is exceedingly glad to hear that the Viceroy has addressed a despatch to the Secretary of State, recommending that the standard of age for the Indian Civil Service competitive examination should be raised to 21. It is still more gratifying to learn that all the members of the Council have agreed to the recommendation.

SURABHI.

120. The same paper says that it believes that most of the native Editors perform their journalistic duties in the manner in which Mr Stevens wishes that they should discharge their duties. But unfortunately officials view things in a different light from Native Editors. For this reason the honest and moderate criticisms in native papers are considered unjust, and their complaints against officials guilty of oppression are considered "malicious personal attacks." That native papers cannot often "ascertain and report the truth" is due to the fault of Government which does not venture to communicate any important matter to Native Editors. But there is no reason for any apprehension in making such communication, inasmuch as the Native Editors are well-wishers of the English Government.

SURABHI.

121. A correspondent of the same paper says that the several wicked persons are very much tormenting one Baboo Prasanna Kumar Mitter, who is now living in south Baraset, in the 24-Pergunnahs. The Magistrate and the police should protect the gentleman from this oppression.

PRABHATI,
Oct. 31st, 1884.

122. The *Prabhati*, of the 31st October, says that Lord Ripon has earned the gratitude of the people by another act of grace, namely, by ordering the release of the prisoners unjustly punished for their supposed complicity in the Salem riots.

PRABHATI.

123. The same paper says that the English have been for the last 25 years continually holding out promises to rule the natives of India without making any distinction of race, creed, or colour. But there is no correspondence between what they say and what they do. They consider natives as rebels whenever these engage in political agitation. Want of good feeling between the rulers and the ruled is not good for the ruler. No one can expect to obtain willing submission in return of kicks. The Mogul Emperors understood this, and they obtained love for love. The English looked to the interests of the natives in the beginning of their rule, and they were loved and liked. But from their present attitude the inference is unavoidable that the solicitude of the English for the natives was interested.

ASSAM NEWS.

124. The following is extracted from the *Assam News*:—We do not know on what an inauspicious occasion Mr. Ilbert proposed the Criminal Jurisdiction Bill, for, instead of gaining the end in view, it has given rise to bitter feelings between the Europeans and the natives, and such feelings have caused and will continue to cause an immense harm to the latter. The Europeans have gained much by the Ilbert Bill agitation; that they should try to harbour ill-feelings towards the natives is a matter we hardly understand. Since then the Anglo-Indians, both officials and non-officials.

all over the country have maligned the native, as if it were their duty, and have never lost an opportunity to injure them. Examples can be cited *ad libitum* at the present moment. The fag end of the Ilbert Bill has, no doubt, encouraged men like Messrs. Webb and Francis to an outrageous conduct towards the native women. We repeat the old thing over again that they would not have otherwise made bold to act as they did. The Europeans are under the impression that they have very little to dread, even though a charge is well proved against them. The European officials too feed fat the Ilbert Bill, grudge by putting the natives to unnecessary troubles and difficulties whenever an opportunity presents itself. The prosecution of the students of Krisbnagore by Major Ramsay is but the baneful consequences of the Ilbert Bill. The history of the case may not be known to many of our readers, for whose benefit we give a brief account below.

125. The following is also taken from the same paper:—A

ASSAM NEWS.

The Kishnagore students' case.

short time ago the gentry of Kishnagore celebrated a subscription *pooja* to be followed by a *yatra* party at night. Major Ramsay believes that it was held in accordance with his desire. It is to be borne in mind that the subscription *pooja* is a general festival where men and women always meet together. The *pooja* under reference was no exception to the rule. A number of students were among the spectators. For the convenience of the lookers-on the manager of the *pooja* had some bamboo platform raised in time. But the crowd was so large that the platform soon gave way. Some say that the managers themselves cut the legs of the platform in order to drive the people. Be that as it may, the breaking of the platform cannot be questioned. On this the school boys enjoyed the accident with repeated clappings. The *yatra* *wallas*, on the other hand, stopped music and went away disgusted.

It has already been said that the *yatra* was played in accordance with Major Ramsay's desire. On the breaking up of the same, his anger knew no bounds. The arrest of the boys was ordered, and immediately effected by the *chaprasis*. Some three or four students took care to keep themselves aloof from the noisy school-boys in the act of clapping, and desired that they might be let alone. Despite his knowledge that all the boys were not guilty, Major Ramsay had both the guilty and the innocent arrested by the police. He cited, in justification of his action, the alleged advisability of punishing the innocent for their keeping company with the guilty. On the next day the case came on for hearing in the court of Mr. O'Brien, the Joint-Magistrate, who after consultation with the Major and the District Magistrate could not find the section under which the boys were to be tried. The wonder is that the case was taken up without knowing the exact nature of the offence committed by the defendants. The Penal Code was consulted, reconsulted with no better result, the section applicable could no way be agreed upon. The case necessarily went on for a month, much to the annoyance and loss of the boys. At last they were tried for a charge of doing what they knew would provoke another. Cross-examined by Mr. Ghose, the lawyer for the defence, Major Ramsay admitted that he had actually resolved to teach the boys a sound lesson for their impertinence. It also appeared that the three gentlemen, Major Ramsay and Messrs Taylor and O'Brien, were really anxious to put down the school-boys. It is strange, no doubt, that men of their position should so actively conspire to bring about the ruin of these common students. That this results literally from the Ilbert Bill controversy admits of no doubt. But truth triumphs, and it triumphs even in this *Koli Zuga* (Iron age). The accused boys were acquitted in spite of the earnest efforts of the three big officials to bring home the charge to them.

We have now come to know that the boys have since brought a civil action against Major Ramsay for instituting a false case against them. This is as it should be, for silence only serves to encourage the wicked in their evil pursuits.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
Oct. 11th, 1884.

126. The *Utkal Dipika*, of the 11th October, is very glad to learn that the work in connection with the Sitarampore and Raipore Railway has already commenced. It hopes that the line may be so extended as to connect Orissa with other parts of India.

The Sitarampore-Raipore Railway.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

127. In another article the same paper gives a brief account of the new Municipal Rules published in the last issue of the *Calcutta Gazette* in conformity with the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, and draws the attention of the taxpayers of the Cuttack Municipality to the same. It advises them to act prudently, and thereby justify the expectations of Government, regarding the capabilities of the natives in securing the benefits of local self-government. Its contemporaries of the *Utkal Darpan* and the *Sāmvād Bahika* follow the same plan, and exhort the people to give effect to the new Municipal Act.

New Municipal Election Rules.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

128. The Civil Surgeon of Cuttack contributes an article to the same paper, pointing out a certain number of remedial measures, which the inhabitants of the Cuttack town ought to adopt as a safeguard against the attack of cholera that is now raging in the town.

Cholera in Cuttack.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

129. The same paper makes the following remarks in connection with the Canal Commission, which the Government are now going to appoint:—

The Canal Commission.

“It is rumoured that three persons will form the members of the proposed Commission, namely, the Joint-Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Irrigation Department, an officer belonging to the Irrigation Department of North-Western Provinces, and the Commissioner of the Orissa Division. The first-named gentleman being a member of the Irrigation Department, will be naturally inclined to keep up the prestige of that Department. It will be very difficult for him to ascertain the grievances of the people. The second-named gentleman, though independent of the Bengal Government, must be very much practised in singing the praises of the Irrigation Department, to which he belongs. Besides the lands of the North-Western Provinces are different from those of Orissa in nature, hence his experience of those provinces will be of very little use in examining the lands of the latter province. As regards the Commissioner of the Orissa Division, we expected much from Mr. Larminie, who is now going away on transfer. He had practically examined the grievances of the people, and was aware of many facts in connection therewith. His successor, Mr. Metcalfe, will be a new man in the division, and be practically guided by the Collector, Mr. Currie, who from his previous decisions in canal cases is known to be very much opposed to the interests of the landlords and tenants.

“His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal complied with the requests of the Orissa People's Association, by appointing a Commission, but the names of the members, thus appointed to discharge its duties, leave very little hope in our minds that justice will be done. It is useless to lament, for this act of His Honor is of a piece with his other acts that were often the subjects of public criticism.

“We now request the Orissa Association to apply to the Government of India to appoint an independent Commission, and to collect facts proving conclusively the distress and grievances of the tenants suffering from injustice in various ways.”

UTKAL DARPAN.
Oct. 14th, 1884.

130. In an article headed the threatened insolvency of Mayurbhanj, the *Utkal Darpan* of the 14th October points out that the manager, Mr. Wylly, is determined to spend the last pice of revenue in public works in that state. It therefore fears that the income of the State will be wasted in carrying out different projects and that no saving will be effected at the close of each financial year. It therefore prays that Government should lay down fixed rules, according to which Mr. Wylly must act.

131. The *Samvát Bahiká*, of the 16th October, rejoices to find that the Government are in earnest to open a railway between Raipore and Sitarampore, and hopes that the line may be so extended as to connect Orissa with other parts of India.

SAMVAT BAHIKA.
Oct. 16th, 1884.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 4th November 1884.

